

WEST LITTLETON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2018 AT 7.30 pm

AT ST JAMES'S GRANGE

Present:

Rev Sally Wheeler, Chairman
David Adams
Carolyn Adams
Christopher Bell
James Golob
Michael Horgan
Harry Lawrence
John Mackenzie-Grieve
Alan Young
Sally Young

Item 1 - Chairman's introductory remarks

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and, in particular, Harry Lawrence and Sally Young who had agreed to join the PCC. David and Elizabeth Sandeman had moved to Scotland and consequently resigned from the PCC. The Chairman said they had both made a huge contribution to the life of the church and community over the years, with Elizabeth as churchwarden and David as a sidesman and Synod representative. All agreed that they would be sadly missed and the meeting wished them well in their new life in Scotland.

The Chairman summarised some of the new appointments in the Diocese. The new Bishop of Bristol, the Right Reverend Vivienne Faull, was now in post and would be visiting the Deanery on the 22 November. The Venerable Christine Froude had retired as the Archdeacon of Malmesbury. Candidates for the post would be interviewed shortly. A new Archdeacon of Bristol would also be appointed shortly. We had a new curate in the Benefice, the Reverend Lynne Godfrey, who would be taking 3 services a month and was expected to remain in post for at least 4 years.

Item 2 - Apologies for absence

There were no apologies.

Item 3 – Minutes of PCC meeting held on Monday 9 April 2018

The minutes were accepted without amendment.

Item 4 - Matters arising

a. Display Boards (Item 4a)

Sally Young said that Ann Ballard was working hard to complete the content for the boards by January. The format and style of the boards had already been decided at an earlier meeting.

b. Church Recording (Item 4b)

David Adams reported that the Severn Valley Arts Society Church Recording Group were close to completing their work at the church but were continuing research of the archives. It was agreed that we should invite the recording team to the village to thank them for their work once it was complete and the book produced.

The Chairman suggested that we should make a note of where various church items were stored as, apart from the safe at Tormarton, several PCC members had items which they kept for safe keeping.

Action: David Adams

c. Hymn Books and Service Sheets (Item8)

The new hymn books had been purchased. The work on the Evensong service sheet had not been taken forward. However, it was hoped that the full sung evensong which had been held for the Harvest Festival could be repeated next year both at Gardens Open and Harvest. As these are the only evensongs held during the year it was agreed that it might be best to produce individual service sheets for each occasion.

Action: David Adams and Christopher Bell

d. Website (Item 10a)

A report from Alan Creighton had been circulated. David Adams would continue to work with Alan on www.stjamesmonuments.org and Harry Lawrence kindly offered to manage inputs to www.westlitleton.com

Action: David Adams and Harry Lawrence

Item 5 – Benefice Report

The Chairman had covered the main points at Item 1 but gave a brief account of activity in the other parishes in the Benefice.

Item 6 - Treasurer's report

Michael Horgan talked the meeting through the spreadsheets. The unencumbered balance at 31 October 2018 was £8719.58 and the value of the investment portfolio was £35970.

Item 7 – Parish Share

The Parish Share request from the Diocese had been circulated. The Chairman gave a brief explanation of the system and summarised the contributions across the Benefice. It was noted that we had been asked for £7500 for 2019, a 23% increase on the £6110 requested in 2018 (we gave £6600). Many felt that a 23% increase seemed somewhat excessive when the Benefice costs had only increased by 1%. After some discussion and taking into account the decision made in 2015 to give as

a baseline no more than 9.5% of the Benefice costs, it was agreed to give £6600 for 2019 as our parish share but to add an additional payment of £400.

Item 8 - Church fabric

David Adams reported that since the last meeting the electrics had been fully checked and a new certificate had been issued. Having chased the Diocese about the Quinquennial which was due this year, they had announced that our architect Paul Richold had retired. It was now for the PCC to arrange the appointment of a new church architect. The Chairman recommended George Chedburn who was already the architect for the other three parishes in the Benefice. It was agreed that George Chedburn should be approached. If he was willing to take on the role then we would invite him to visit the church and meet members of the PCC.

Action: David Adams

Item 9 – Services

The proposed dates for special services through to Easter were confirmed/agreed:

Sunday 9 December	Gift Service 1030 am
Sunday 23 December	Carol Service 6pm
Christmas Day	Christmas Service including a shortened Holy Communion 10am
Sunday 13 January	Plough Service in Marshfield (no matins at West Littleton)
Good Friday 19 April	Devotional Service 1030am
Sunday 21 April Easter Day	Holy Communion 1030am

The timing of the Gardens Open service was discussed and it was agreed to have it at the earlier time of 5.45 as in 2018.

Item 10 – Events

a. Madrigals 2019

David Adams was in touch with the Bristol University Madrigal Ensemble who had confirmed that they would very much like to return in 2019. They were considering Fridays in March. It was agreed that the second half of March might be best.

Elizabeth Edwards had kindly agreed to host the supper once more at Cadwell Hill Barn.

It was confirmed, as discussed at the last meeting, that we should keep the format for selling wine by the bottle and to raise the price of the meal to £12.50.

b. Gardens Open 2019

The date for Gardens Open in 2018 was the weekend of 8/9 June. It was agreed that the ticket price would remain at £5 but that there would be no concessions.

Item 11 - Any other business

There were two items of other business:

- a. The Chairman said that a request had been received to place ashes in the churchyard with a suitable memorial stone. It was confirmed that the PCC's policy was for a flat stone and for the ashes to be placed alongside the others just inside the churchyard to the right.
- b. James Golob said that he had been approached by the renowned flautist Ashley Solomon (Professor of Flute at the Royal Academy of Music) to see if he could give a concert in the church, if it proved suitable, sometime next year. It was agreed that this would be an excellent idea.

Item 12 - Date of next meeting

The next meeting would be held at 7.30 pm on Monday 1 April 2019 at St James's Grange

Sally Wheeler
Chairman

To:

Rev Sally Wheeler
David Adams
Carolyn Adams
Christopher Bell
James Golob
Michael Horgan
Harry Lawrence
John Mackenzie-Grieve
Alan Young
Sally Young

cc VillageWebsite
Church Folder